



Docket No. MCP 231

1615
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Parikh, et al.
Serial No. : 09/745,243 : Art Unit: 1615
Filed : 21 December 2000 : Examiner: Pulliam, A.
For : TEXTURE MASKED PARTICLES CONTAINING AN ACTIVE INGREDIENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

11 April 2002
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Michele G. Mangini
Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative

Michele G. Mangini
(Signature)

11 April 2002

(Date of Signature)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the office action dated 12 March 2002 ("Office Action"), which set a shortened thirty (30) day response period.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action required election to a single disclosed species. Claims 1 - 72 are pending in the application.

Applicants respectfully elect to prosecute the invention of Group 1 (claims 1 - 36), with traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims include sufficiently few species such that a search and examination of all of the species at one time would not impose a serious burden. Therefore Applicants respectfully submit that the invention as claimed in claims 1 - 72 may best be examinable in one application.